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AGRICULTURE AIDED BY NEW
MACHINERY, ELECTRICITY, IRRIGATION

KAZAKH SOVKHOZES GET NEW MACHINERY -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 114, 14 Jun 49

At present, more than 200 self-propelled three-bar mowing machines of a new design and 168 wide-swing tractor-drawn rakes are being delivered to sovkhoses in Kazakh SSR.

UKRAINE COMPLETES COMBINE REPAIR -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 139, 15 Jun 49

Sovkhozes in the Ukraine have finished repairing the combine park. Repair of simple harvesting machines is nearing completion. About the beginning of the harvest, the combine park will be increased by 500 new machines, of which 120 will be self-propelled.

SVERDLOVSK ELECTRIFICATION PROGRESSES -- Kommunist, No 134, 9 Jun 49

There are over 7,000 electric motors in kolkhozes of Sverdlovsk Oblast, which is an average of four motors per kolkhoz. Many kolkhozes are doing almost all of their farm work by electricity, except plowing and harvesting. Electric tractors were used for the first time in 1948 at the "Zarya" Kolkhoz, Achinskii Rayon. This year electric tractors are operating at 11 kolkhozes of Beloyarskiy Rayon.

More extensive use of electricity in kolkhoz production is continuing. Eight new interkolkhoz hydroelectric power plants and 10 heating plants are under construction and will be put into operation by the end of the year. At the end of 1949, the number of electric motors in kolkhozes of Sverdlovsk Oblast is to reach 10,000.

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IRRIGATION PROJECTS EXPAND -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 113, 12 Jun 49

Large irrigation projects are being developed in the Kazakh SSR. The most important of these is the irrigation of South Kazakhstan, where several hydrotechnical structures are to be built, including the Arys'-Turkestan Canal and the Bugun' reservoir.

The Arys'-Turkestan Canal will irrigate 40,000 hectares of land and will radically change the natural conditions in Frunzenskiy, Turkestanskiy, Chaynovskiy, Shaul'derskiy, and Aryaskiy rayons. The irrigated area will be covered with cotton plantations, orchards, vineyards, and forest belts. The Bugun' reservoir is to hold 360 million cubic meters of water and will irrigate 15,000 hectares.

Further development of the Golodnaya Steppe is progressing. The total length of canals in this region is over 3,000 kilometers.

In Dzhambul Oblast, construction of the Ters-Ashchibulakskiy reservoir has begun. A dam which is 1 1/2 kilometers long and 30 meters high, will confine the water of the Ters River and preserve it for summer irrigation. All earth work in this location is being mechanized. The water reservoir will make it possible to irrigate many thousand hectares of land for sugar-beet planting in Dzhambulskiy, Sverdlovskiy and Talasskiy rayons.

KAZAKHSTAN SEEKS NEW PASTURES -- Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, No 113, 12 Jun 49

A vast part of Kazakhstan is covered with steppes. There are many unexplored regions, where millions of heads of cattle could be grazing.

The Republic Pasture Development Trust has begun exploring regions in Betpak-Dala, Sary-Arka, on the Ust'-Urt plateau and adjoining spring and summer pastures, the Kara-Kumy desert near Aral Sea; and the Uygurskiy, Kogenskiy, and Chilikskiy rayons of Alma-Ata Oblast.

Three expeditions have left for the deserts and steppes. They consist of geobotanists, hydrotechnologists, hydrogeologists, and land-development experts. They will explore 21 million hectares of pasture lands during the summer, which is four times as much as last year. The expeditions will determine the reserves and botanic composition of fodder grass, and the depth at which underground water is found. According to their findings, plans will be made for practical land utilization and pasture irrigation.

Institutes of the Academy of Sciences Kazakh SSR, the Kazakh Affiliate of the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences imeni Lenin, the State University imeni Kirov, the Geological Administration, and other scientific research institutions are taking an active part in the work of the expeditions.

SCIENTISTS STUDY SIBERIAN AGRICULTURE -- Sovetskaya Sibir', No 88, 6 May 49

Since the August 1948 session of VASKhNIL, the work of the Western Siberian Affiliate of the Academy of Sciences USSR and its branches -- the Medical Biology Institute and the Central Siberian Botanical Garden -- has undergone decisive changes.

The Institute has been reformed to include an agricultural sector and a forestry sector; a sector of reclamation and soil science is not being organized. The Institute has strengthened its relations with leading kolkhozes and sovkhozes in Novosibirsk Oblast. Regular weekly Michurin seminars are held for the Institute's workers and monthly Michurin studies have been organized for biologists in the city. All scientific research after August session was

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directed toward further development of Michurin biology and science, as applied directly to Siberia. Monographs and crop maps of the Kulunda Steppe and Kemerovo Oblast have been drawn. Monographs of Novosibirsk Oblast, the southern part of Altay Krai, the Tuva Autonomous Oblast and parts of Krasnoyarsk Krai are now being made. All work has been done in close connection with agricultural organizations. The geobotanical regionalization and mapping of Siberia will provide the necessary material for correct planning of forest shelter belts, for distribution of agricultural crops by region, and for cultivation of perennial grasses.

A new line of work on the meadows of Siberia is now being developed and will indicate the distribution of grass types in various Siberian regions and should aid in developing plans to improve the meadows for animal husbandry purposes. The vitamin content of various fodder grasses according to region is also being studied.

Very important principles on the accumulation of vitamins, as it depends on outward environmental conditions such as soil, sea level, etc., have been discovered. More than 60 crop species have been studied for Vitamin C content and a number of valuable types have been discovered. More than 100 species have been studied for carotin content with the discovery that the greatest carotin content is in leguminous crops, primarily in vetchling, which contains 3 - 4 times more carotin than is found in carrots.

New research on the subject "Discovery of Methods of Increasing the Seed Productivity of Lucerne Under Siberian Conditions" has been started. Another important work, "Study of the Systems of Storing Seed Grain under Siberian Conditions" has also been started. The problem of shelter belts is being handled in the work, "Regionalization of Tree Species in Forest Belts in Novosibirsk Oblast and Altay Krai."

A complex expedition of botanists, agronomists, forestry experts, soil scientists, and zoologists has been planned for June in the main regions of southern Baraba and Kulunda in an effort to work out the above problems and assist kolkhozes in introducing crop rotation.

The institute has six active members and three competitive members of the Society for Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge. Each of these members, during a 7-month period, has given 10 or 20 lectures on Michurin biology, crop rotation, and other related problems.

ARMENIA PREPARING FOR CANNING SEASON -- Kommunist, No 134, 9 Jun 49

Enterprises of the Armenian Canned Food Trust, Ministry of Food Industry USSR, are preparing for the canning season. New machinery has been installed and many labor processes have been mechanized.

The Armenian Canned Food Trust plans to produce 23 million cans of canned vegetables and fruit during 1949. Several new brands of canned goods will be introduced. Tomato paste and tomato juice will be produced for the first time. Compared with last year, the production of jam and marmalade, green pear, fruit sauce and fruit juices, will be considerably increased.

FISH CANNERY BUILT IN KARELO-FINNISH SSR -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 137, 12 Jun 49

Construction of a new fish cannery has begun at Vodlozero, near the Kuganavolok settlement. This is the third fish canning enterprises in the Karelo-Finnish SSR, built after the war. The cannery will be put into operation in September.

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CONFECTIONERY FACTORY HAS BISCUIT SHOP -- Sovetskaya Litva, No 136, 11 Jun 49

A new biscuit shop has been put into operation in the "Ramune" Confectionery Factory. Now five types of biscuits are put out in packages. The capacity of the shop is 25 tons of products per month.

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